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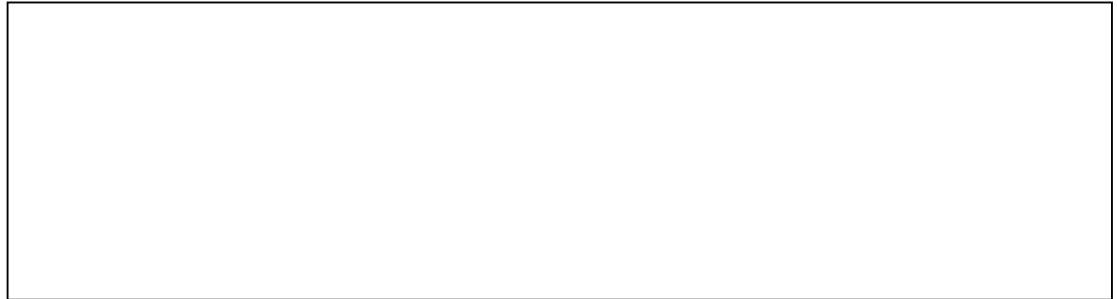
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[REDACTED]



Latin America

Bolivia

***Setback in
Alternative
Development***

The banana crop, one of the main alternative development crops in the Chapare coca growing region, is infected with a damaging fungus, [REDACTED]

The fungus is recurring and will require extensive crop spraying, *which would be marginally cost effective only if banana fields were consolidated in clusters.*

- *Coca farmers will likely view the fungus damage on the banana crop and expensive countermeasures as a major drawback to efforts to shift to any alternative crop. In addition, the price of coca leaf is currently stabilized at a level providing a high return to the farmers, making alternative crops even less attractive.* [REDACTED]

To generate more interest in legitimate crops, the government must aggressively enforce current laws that dictate arrests of farmers involved in the planting of new coca fields. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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